

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. DULLES

Stan Grogan has carefully reviewed the different versions reported on the Ridder dinner and suggested that the differences are not material and that you might wish to send a copy of his rundown on those differences along to Mr. Mueller, in response to his request.



19 October
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
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ER 11-8140/a

[Handwritten signature]
The Honorable Frederick H. Mueller,
Secretary of Commerce
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Fred:

In your letter of 6 October you asked me to let you know if there were any material differences between the American version and that reported by Moscow of what transpired at the Ridder dinner.

We have carefully followed this matter and I am attaching for your information a report to me on this subject. I am also enclosing for your interest an article by H. E. Luedicke which appeared in the Journal of Commerce on 28 September 1959.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosures

O/DCI/[]:kp

Rewritten: O/DCI/[] blp 20 Oct 59

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

- 1/- DCI
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- 1 - Colonel Grogan
- 1 - JMC Chrono

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Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Fred:

In your letter of 6 October you asked me to let you know if there were any material differences between the American version and that reported by Moscow of what transpired at the Riddler dinner.

My assistant, Colonel Grogan, has carefully followed this matter and I am attaching for your information his report to me. I am also enclosing for your interest an article by E. K. Lundicke which appeared in the Journal of Commerce on 28 September 1959.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosures

O/DCI/[]:kp

Distribution:

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13 October 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. Walter Ridder said there were some differences between the report of the Eric Ridder dinner of 24 September 1959 for Khrushchev as broadcast by the Moscow Home Service on 27 September 1959 and that published under the by-line of H. E. Luedicke in the Journal of Commerce, the Ridder paper, which represents the Ridder viewpoint of what actually was said.

2. The Ridder "Notes" which conform to the Luedicke article, were turned over to the State Department (Mr. Arthur Smith) by Mr. Naumann of the Washington office of Ridder. State is making a study of them (Messrs. Williamson, Seip, and Smith). Foy Kohler, who was at the dinner, has made an "official use only" memorandum of what transpired as he remembers it.

3. The Moscow broadcast version is longer than the Ridder report in the Journal of Commerce. A copy of the Journal report and of the Moscow report are attached. The Moscow version includes the names of several United States manufacturing companies that the Journal of Commerce omits. Here are the differences:

(1) In a statement by C. M. White, Republic Steel, passages omitted in Moscow version: that (1) Russian immigrant workers in U.S. forty years ago were "inferior" and today do a "perfectly splendid job", and that (2) Soviet "has reached into our country and other countries" and made trouble "whenever racial, religious, or labor trouble develops."

(2) K's reply to White, according to Luedicke, was to deny that he knew "any of your Communists"; this disclaimer is missing in the Moscow version. "If" he should try to interfere with American communists, "you'd probably tell me to mind my own business", Luedicke reported that "they" (the American communists) would tell K to "keep your nose out of our business."

(3) K's exchange with Frank Pace omitted in Moscow version, including Pace's comment that U. S. moral position was supported with power.

(4) K hinted that he will "tell my people about this trip," in Luedicke's version. This passage is omitted in the Moscow version, which carries, instead, apparently in another context, K's statement that "I shall report to my government on this trip". Latter phrase was not picked up by Luedicke.

(5) K's criticism of the State Department for the "strategic list" of embargoed goods was softened in the Moscow version. In Luedicke's version, K said categorically that "your State Department won't let us" purchase various items of goods. "It refuses to end the restrictions on the export of chemical equipment." In the Moscow version, K said merely that he would trade, again, with the DuPont firm "if" this is not precluded by the State Department.

(6) David Sarnoff's name is omitted entirely from the Moscow version, including his comment that K wants "peace at no price - - on his terms;"

(7) Story by Charles H. Percy, Ball and Howell, on superior German camera carried by Mikoyan's son in preference to inferior Soviet camera, is omitted in Moscow version, which quotes Percy as saying, merely, "I was told that your cameras are bad" Percy's name is misspelled "Pacoy" and his affiliation with Ball and Howell is omitted in the Moscow version.

(8) Both versions quote K's claim that Soviet economic growth is "2 or 3 times" that of U. S., by Moscow version omits further claim (quoted by Luedicke) that Soviet is "ahead" in 7-year plan.

(9) K revealed, in Luedicke version, that a British tire factory purchased by Soviet had a capacity of "2 million tires"; the figure is omitted in Moscow version.

(10) K's needling of American economic relations with its allies, quoted by Luedicke, is omitted in Moscow version.

(11) K's denial that Soviet had defaulted on debts to U. S. is omitted from Moscow version.

(12) In K's exchange with Jack Strauss, Macy executive, on U. S. boycott of Soviet goods, K rejected comparison of Soviet with wartime Germany: according to Luedicke, he said, "I don't think we are in a state of war with the United States." The

Moscow version is less provocative: "When you were not allowed to buy German goods you were in a state of war with Germany." Moscow version erroneously identifies questioner as "D" Strauss, and omits affiliation with Macy's.

(13) K's "plaintive" comment, in Luedtke, that "our (Soviet) warehouses are empty" of consumer goods, is omitted from Moscow version.

(14) The following passages in the Moscow version were not carried by Luedtke:

a. U. S. imports of Polish ham, mentioned by W. Moore of Moore-McCormack Lines (BB-3);

b. K's reply about Soviet secrecy on gold reserves, that "we do not prize gold too highly" (BB-4);

c. K's assurance that he "will bear in mind" criticism by R. Reed (company unidentified) that American travel agencies are "still not there," in USSR (BB-6);

d. K's charge that "some" American businessmen with "big military orders" are perhaps "not inclined" to peace (BB-7);

e. K's claim that Soviet has built a 70,000 ton press, compared to Mesta's 50,000 ton press (BB-7);

f. K's statement that Soviet oil turbodrills are superior and are being sold to U. S. (BB-8);

g. Specific firms (U.S.) mentioned in the Moscow version but omitted by the Journal of Commerce: Union Carbon and Carbide; Moore-McCormack Lines; Coty; Ford Motor Company; Mesta; and DuPont.

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